

## CLAIMS

1. Use of a substance P antagonist in a composition containing a cosmetically-acceptable medium for treatment of sensitive skin.

2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the substance P antagonist is chosen among the peptides and compounds containing at least one nitrogenous heterocyclic compound.

3. Use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the peptide is sendide or spantide II.

4. Use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the compound containing at least one nitrogenous heterocyclic compound is a derivative of 2-tricyclyl-2-aminoethane, a derivative of spirolactame, a derivative of quinuclidine, an azacyclic derivative, a derivative of aminopyrrolidine, a derivative of piperidine, an aminoazaheterocyclic compound, or a derivative of isoindole.

5. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the substance P antagonist is used in a quantity of between 0.000001 to 5% by weight of the total weight of the composition.

6. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the substance P antagonist is used in a quantity of between 0.0001 to 0.1% of the total weight of the composition.

7. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the cosmetically-acceptable medium is an aqueous or hydroalcoholic solution, a water-in-oil or oil-in-water emulsion, a microemulsion, an aqueous gel, an anhydrous gel, a serum, or a vesicular dispersion.

8. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the composition contains at least one agent chosen from among antibacterial, anti-parasitical, anti-fungal, anti-inflammatory, anti-pruriginous, anesthetic, antiviral, keratolytic, anti-free radical, anti-seborrhea, dandruff-fighting, and acne-fighting agents and/or agents modulating skin differentiation, proliferation, and/or pigmentation.

9. Use according to the preceding claim, wherein the agent is lidocaine chlorhydrate, or a non-steroid anti-parasitical or anti-inflammatory agent.

10. Use in a cosmetic composition of a substance P antagonist to prevent and/or combat skin irritations, desquamation, erythemas, sensations of dysesthesia, sensations of overheating, and/or pruritis of the skin.

11. Use according to claim 10, wherein the substance P antagonist is chosen from among peptides and compounds containing at least one nitrogenous heterocyclic compound.

12. Use according to claim 10 or 11, wherein the substance P antagonist is used in a quantity of between 0.000001 and 5% by weight of the total weight of the composition.

13. Use according to any of claims 10 to 12, wherein the substance P antagonist is used in a quantity of between 0.0001 and 0.1% by weight of the total weight of the composition.

14. Cosmetic treatment process, wherein a composition containing a substance P antagonist in a cosmetically-acceptable medium is applied on the skin, hair, and/or mucous membranes.

15. Process according to claim 14, wherein the substance P antagonist is chosen from among the peptides and compounds containing at least one nitrogenous heterocyclic compound.

16. Process according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the substance P antagonist is used in a quantity of between 0.000001 to 5% by weight of the total weight of the composition.

17. Process according to any of claims 14 to 16, wherein the substance P antagonist is used in a quantity of between 0.0001 and 0.1% by weight of the total weight of the composition.

18. Cosmetic composition containing a cosmetically-acceptable medium and at least one active ingredient producing an irritant

side effect, wherein said composition contains a substance P antagonist.

19. Cosmetic composition according to claim 18, wherein the substance P antagonist is chosen from among the peptides and compounds containing at least one nitrogenous heterocyclic compound.

20. Cosmetic composition according to claim 18 or 19, wherein the substance P antagonist is used in a quantity of between 0.000001 and 5% by weight of the total weight of the composition.

21. Cosmetic composition according to any of claims 18 to 20, wherein the substance P antagonist is used in a quantity of between 0.0001 and 0.1% by weight of the total weight of the composition.

22. Cosmetic composition according to any of claims 18 to 21, wherein the active ingredient producing an irritant side effect is chosen from among  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acids,  $\beta$ -hydroxy acids,  $\alpha$ -ketonic acids,  $\beta$ -ketonic acids, retinoids, anthralines, anthranoids, peroxides, minoxidil, lithium salts, antimetabolites, and vitamin D and the derivatives thereof.

23. Cosmetic composition according to any of claims 18 to 22, wherein said cosmetic composition further contains at least one agent selected from among antibacterial, anti-parasitical,

antifungal, anti-inflammatory, anti-pruriginous, anesthetic, antiviral, keratolytic, anti-free radical, anti-seborrhea, dandruff-fighting, and acne-fighting agents and/or agents modulating skin differentiation, proliferation, and/or pigmentation.

24. Use of capsaicin for preparation of a composition intended to identify sensitive skin.